

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 NDJAME 02305 081230Z
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 USIE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00
PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01
PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 NSCE-00 INRE-00 SSO-00 TRSE-00
OMB-01 DHA-02 MCT-01 ACDA-07 IO-13 OPR-02 A-01
USSS-00 SY-05 EUR-12 AID-05 PC-01 /110 W
-----102516 081233Z /40

O R 081055Z JUL 77
FM AMEMBASSY NDJAMENA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 4535
INFO AMCONSUL ALEXANDRIA NIACT IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY CAIRO NIACT IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

S E C R E T NDJAMENA 2305

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MASS, PINS, LY, EY, CD
SUBJECT: SITUATION IN NORTHERN CHAD AND CHADIAN EMMISSARY TO US.

1. EGYPTIAN ASSESSMENT OF CHADIAN SITUATION: PRESIDENT
SADAT'S APPRAISAL OF SITUATION IN NORTHERN CHAD AND
INTENTIONS OF REBELS APPEARS TO BE VERY LARGELY BASED
ON REPORTS HIS AMBASSADOR IN N'DJAMENA, MOHAMMED
SELIM, WITH WHOM WE HAVE BEEN COOPERATING CLOSELY
BUT WITH WHOSE ASSESSMENTS WE ARE NOT FULLY IN ACCORD.

2. AS SELIM SEES IT, CHADIAN FORCES HAVE EFFECTIVE
STRENGTH OF ABOUT 12,000 (PERHAPS 2,000 HIGH IN OUR
ESTIMATE), WHILE REBELS HAVE 7,000 UNDER ARMS IN
CHAD (ALSO HIGH) AND COULD DRAW UPON ALMOST ANOTHER
7,000 (AGAIN HIGH) LIBYAN REGULARS, TOBOUS FROM LIYBAN, OTHER
THIRD COUNTRY SOURCES, ETC, PARTICULARLY FOR SUPPORT AND
OCCUPATION IN LIBYAN CLAIMED TERRITORY. WITH FALL OF BARDAI,
REBELS INCREASING PRESSURE FOR ZOUAR WHICH EXPECTED TO FALL
SHORTLY. SELIM THEN BELIEVES THAT REBELS WILL TURN SOUTHEAST AND
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 NDJAME 02305 081230Z

ATTACK FAYA WHICH HE THINKS CANNOT SURVIVE SERIOUS ATTACK.
WITH FALL OF FAYA, REBELS WOULD THEN TURN TOWARDS, N'DJAMENA,
AND, WITH MALLOUM GOVERNMENT IN DISARRAY AND DISCREDITED,
REBELS WOULD HAVE GOOD CHANCE TAKE OVER CENTRAL GOVERNMENT
IN N'DJAMENA. IN SELIM'S VIEW, GOUKOUNI'S IMMEDIATE PURPOSE
IS NOT CREATION TOUBOU FATHERLAND BUT TAKEOVER OF CHAD. (WE
ARE DOUBTFUL, AND BELIEVE THAT ALTHOUGH REBEL ATTACK ON FAYA

NOT BEYOND BOUNDS OF POSSIBLE AFTER FALL OF ZOUAR, REBELS MORE LIKELY ATTEMPT CONSOLIDATE POSITION IN NORTH AND/OR MOVE EASTWARD ONCE AGAI. (ALTHOUGH MILITARY DEFEAT IN NORTH COULD OBVIOUSLY HAVE DIVISIVE EFFECTS BETWEEN MEMBERS OF GOVERNMENT AND BETWEEN MOSLIM AND NON-MOSLIM ELEMENTS OF POPULACE, PARTICULARLY IN N'DJAMENA.) SELIM CONVINCED THAT MALLOUM REGIME WILL BE TOPPLED BY REBEL ATTACK OR COUP D'ETAT BY END OF AUGUST IF OUTSIDE HELP NOT FORTHCOMING QUICKLY. SELIM EQUALLY CONVINCED THAT CURRENT REBEL ATTACKS PART OF LONG TERM STRATEGY OF SOVIETS WHO UTILIZING THEIR "RICH MARIONETTE" QUADHAFI. SELIM MAINTAINS THAT SOVIETS HAVE PURPOSELY KEPT MALLOUM GOVERNMENT SHORT OF AMMUNITION FOR SOVIET SUPPLIED WEAPONS, FOR EXAMPLE. SELIM MAINTAINS THAT ONLY ASSISTANCE TO CHAD WHICH WOULD BE TRULY VALUABLE TO MALLOUM IS WELL-ARMED SOLDIERS (AND PRESUMABLY AIRCRAFT TO GET THEM TO NORTH), AS BOTH LOGISTICS AND TERRAIN MAKE IT IMPRACTICAL TO ATTEMPT TO MOVE HEAVY EQUIPMENT SUCH AS TANKS INTO NORTH.

3. EMBASSY COMMENT: SELIM HAS BEEN CONVINCED OF SOVIET DESIGNS ON CHAD FOR PAST SEVERAL YEARS, WHICH, OF COURSE, DOES NOT PROVE HIM WRONG. BUT HE IS IN OUR VIEW SOMEWHAT OVERLY INCLINED TO INTERPRET RECENT EVENTS AS VERIFICATION OF HIS LONG HELD BELIEF. INTERESTINGLY ENOUGH, HOWEVER, WHEREAS TWO YEARS AGO SELIM THOUGHT A NORTHERN, MOSLEM-LED CHAD THE ONLY SOLUTION TO CHADIAN

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 03 NDJAME 02305 081230Z

PROBLEMS, HE NOW CONSIDERS THAT EGYPT AND THE WEST MUST SUPPORT MALLOUM AND THE SOTHERNERS AS THE ONLY AVAILABLE BULWARK AGAINST LIBYAN/SOVIET PLOTS WHICH HAVE AS THEIR EVENTUAL GOAL OVERTHROW CURRENT GOVERNMENT IN EGYPT AND SUDAN.

4. OTHER COMMENTS: N'DJAMENA 1995 (NOTAL)
REPORTED CONFLICTING REPORTS ABOUT ALLEGED LIBYAN
WITHDRAWAL FROM AOZOU. SUBSEQUENT N'DJAMENA 2098

REPORTED ASSESSMENT OF FRENCH AMBASSADOR THAT NO
WITHDRAWAL HAD OCCURED, WHICH ASSESSMENT WE BELIEVE
ACCURATE. EGYPTIAN AND FRENCH AMBASSADORS N'DJAMENA
BOTH INFORMED THAT VICE PRESIDENT DJIME HAD CONVEYED TO
US WISH OF PRESIDENT MALLOUM TO VISIT PRESIDENT CARTER
TO PRESENT CASE DIRECTLY; THAT WE HAD REPLIED THAT IT
UNLIKELY PRESIDENT CARTER COULD RECEIVE HIM ON SUCH
SHORT NOTICE AND THAT WE QUESTIONED WISDOM OF VISIT
AT THIS TIME ALTHOUGH HE WOULD OF COURSE BE
APPROPRIATELY RECEIVED; AND THAT DJIME (NOT MALLOUM,
BUT PRESUMABLY WITH MALLOUM'S CONCURRENCE) HAD
SUGGESTED THAT HE HIMSELF GO TO WASHINGTON. BRADFORD

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: INTELLIGENCE ASSESSMENTS, POLITICAL SITUATION, COMBAT OPERATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 08-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977NDJAME02305
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770243-0038
Format: TEL
From: NDJAMENA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770777/aaaacpim.tel
Line Count: 116
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 91b28a6e-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29-Dec-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1922001
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SITUATION IN NORTHERN CHAD AND CHADIAN EMISSARY TO US.
TAGS: MASS, PINS, LY, EG, CD
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/91b28a6e-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009